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Director of Central Intelligence

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[redacted]

CIA CPAS NIDC 82-152C

National Intelligence Daily (Cable)

30 June 1982

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[redacted]

CPAS NIDC 82-152C

30 June 1982

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ARGENTINA: Political Maneuvering

President-designate Bignone is considering a proposal to name a civilian as vice president in an effort to ease tensions with the Air Force and Navy. Leaders of all three services met yesterday to discuss a proposal that the leader of the small, moderate Progressive Democratic Party be appointed to the position. Bignone has gained at least temporary support from the political parties by promising to lift the ban on political activity imposed in 1976. 3.5(c)

Comment: //Civilian politicians would be more likely at first to refrain from criticizing a government with one of their own in the number-two spot. A civilian vice president, along with other recent appointments of civilians to key government posts, also could help reduce friction in the military. The Air Force and Navy chiefs, who left the junta to protest the Army's refusal to turn power over to civilians, may be persuaded to rejoin the government. A reunited junta, however, would still have to cope with dissension among middle-ranking Army officers.//

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